

- Frith, C. B. & Beehler, B. M. 1998. *The birds of paradise Paradisaeidae*. Oxford Univ. Press.
- Hartert, E. 1910. On the eggs of the Paradisaeidae. *Novitates Zoologicae* 17: 484-491.
- Mayr, E. & Rand, A. L. 1937. Results of the Archbold Expeditions. 14. Birds of the 1933-1934 Expedition. *Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.* 73: 1-248.
- Rothschild, Lord W. 1898. Paradisaeidae. *Das Tierreich* 2 Lieferung 1-52. Verlag von R. Friedlander und Sohn. Berlin.
- Sims, R. W. 1956. Birds collected by Mr. F. Shaw-Mayer in the central highlands of New Guinea 1950-1951. *Bull. Brit. Mus. Nat. Hist.* 3: 389-438.
- Smithie, F. B. 1975. *Naturalist's color guide*. American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Address: Dr. A. L. Mack & Dr. D. D. Wright, Wildlife Conservation Society, P.O. Box 277, Goroka, EHP, PAPUA NEW GUINEA. email: amack@wcs.org dwright@wcs.org

© British Ornithologists' Club 2000

New distributional sightings of 28 species of birds from Dpto. Nariño, SW Colombia

by Ralf Strewe

Received 3 September 1999

Recent fieldwork by the author during a two-year study (August 1996 – July 1998) of the biogeography and altitudinal migration of tanagers *Thraupinae* within the Chocó Endemic Bird Area of Pacific Colombia (Strewe 1999) has yielded noteworthy distributional records of birds, including new distributional records for Dpto. Nariño, for the Pacific slope in Nariño and one species new to Colombia. Much of the information included in this paper results from avifaunal surveys within the project area along an altitudinal gradient from 400 to 3,200 m on the Pacific slope in Nariño. Additionally, excursions were made to different localities in Nariño.

The majority of records included herein were obtained at 8 localities:

- (1) Miraflores, a small village on the NW slope of the Volcan Cumbal at 2,800 m (1°02'N, 77°52'W). Humid montane forest at altitudes between 2,500 to 3,200 m were surveyed in the vicinity of this village.
- (2) La Planada Nature Reserve (1°09'N, 77°58'W) protects c. 2,500 ha of wet premontane forest at 1,800-2,100 m.
- (3) Rio Ñambi Nature Reserve (1°18'N, 78°05'W) includes pluvial premontane forest at 1,000-1,600 m (c. 1,500 ha).
- (4) El Pangan Nature Reserve, established 1998 (c. 1,000 ha, 1°21'N, 78°04'W), includes pluvial premontane forest in the lower Rio Ñambi valley at 600-1,400 m.
- (5) Pueblo Nuevo, a small village at the foot of the Andes (390 m) surrounded by wet lowland and foothill forest (1°29'N, 78°14'W).
- (6) The Upper Patía valley was visited during a two-day excursion on 4-5 January 1998; dry thickets and secondary forests on the W slope of the valley around the villages Leiva and El Rosario (950-1,200 m) were surveyed.

- (7) Playa Mulato, a narrow sandy island within the Sanquianga National Park north-east of Tumaco, visited during a four-day excursion in March 1997.
- (8) La Cocha, a lake south-east of Pasto on the eastern slope of the Andes at 2,700 m (1°05'N, 77°09'W). Small private reserves protect some of the remaining Andean forest around the lake.

Species accounts

TAWNY-BREASTED TINAMOU *Nothocercus julius*

On 2 October 1997 an adult with 3 juveniles was seen foraging on a small trail in fairly open montane humid forest on the NW slope of Volcan Cumbal at 3,200 m, representing the first record for Dpto. Nariño. The species is known from all three Andean ranges in Colombia and N Ecuador in Dpto. Pichincha (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Hilty & Brown 1986).

SOUTHERN LAPWING *Vanellus chilensis*

Two adults were observed foraging in a meadow in the upper Patía valley close to the village Leiva (1,100 m) on 4 January 1998. The species was unrecorded for Dpto. Nariño, but known in suitable habitat to S Dpto. Cauca (Haffer 1986, Hilty & Brown 1986).

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus*

The species appears to be a regular winter visitor along the Pacific coast of Colombia (Hilty & Brown 1986). On 23 March 1997 two groups of 8 and 14 winter plumaged individuals were observed in the ocean a few km off the coast of Playa Mulato, Sanquianga National Park.

ANDEAN GULL *Larus serranus*

During several visits to the Lagune La Cocha individuals or small flocks were recorded, including 8 birds on 30 November 1997 along the W shore of the lake, and 13 birds (8 adults and 5 juveniles) on 3 January 2000 in the El Encano River delta (photographs). Previously known from open high Andean marshes and lake-shores north to N Ecuador (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990).

ELEGANT TERN *Thalasseus elegans*

The sighting of an adult on 20 October 1996 in a flock of Royal Terns *Thalasseus maximus* flying south close to the beach of Boca Grande island, Tumacó (1°49'N, 78°46'W), represents the first record for Dpto. Nariño. The winter plumaged adult showed a long, slender, slightly decurved orange bill, a solid black crown extending around the eye and a more deeply forked tail than *Thalasseus maximus*. Another record for Chocó exists from the Buenaventura Bay, with one individual seen on 3 March 1979. As a pelagic migrant the species probably visits coastal waters in Pacific Colombia rarely (Hilty & Brown 1986).

WHITE-THROATED HAWK *Buteo albigula*

The species is known from W Andes in Colombia at Munchique and at El Tambo, Dpto. Cauca, and from both slopes in N Ecuador (pers. obs.), but has not been cited

from Nariño (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Hilty & Brown 1986, Thiollay 1991). The first location for Dpto. Nariño is the Miraflores valley on the NW slope of Volcan Cumbal; single birds were observed on 23 June 1997 and on 3 October 1997, soaring during midday over steep slopes with degraded humid montane forest and secondary forest (2,800-3,200 m).

PEARL KITE *Gampsonyx swainsonii*

During a two-day excursion to the upper Patía valley two individuals were observed perching on poles close to the village Leiva (1,100 m) in very degraded dry forest habitat on the western slope of the valley on 4 January 1998. The species has been recorded from the Magdalena valley south to Dpto. Cundinamarca-Tolima boundary, but not from the Cauca valley (Hilty & Brown 1986).

ORNATE HAWK-EAGLE *Spizaetus ornatus*

During fieldwork on the Pacific slope in Dpto. Nariño this species was observed at altitudes between 500-1,900 m: pairs were recorded regularly in the Ñambi valley in pluvial premontane forest at 1,400 m and lower at 600-1,000 m. In October-December 1997 the species was present in the La Planada Nature Reserve at 1,950 m, with an adult soaring and calling intensively (tape-recording). In the Colombian Pacific region, the species had been known previously south to the Anchicaña Valley, Dpto. Cauca, and rarely in N Ecuador, Dpto. Esmeraldas (October 1997 Estacion Biológica Jatun Sacha Bilsa, pers. obs.) (Hilty & Brown 1986). Thiollay (1991) did not record the species in his study area, but he mentioned that the species is likely to occur in the coastal plain of Dpto. Nariño.

BAUDÓ GUAN *Peulope ortoni*

This threatened and restricted-range species is rare in the Pacific lowlands and foothills in W Colombia and N Ecuador (Collar *et al.* 1994, Stattersfield *et al.* 1998). It is known in Colombia from the Baudó mountains, Dpto. Chocó, the Anchicaña Valley and below Cerro Munchique, Dpto. Cauca (Hilty & Brown 1986). Salaman (1994) described a female killed by local indians from the Rio Ñambi valley. The first observations for Dpto. Nariño are from the same valley within the El Pangan Nature Reserve. On 3 July 1997 one individual was observed on a steep slope (820 m) in pluvial premontane forest, and on 4 May 1998 four birds were seen feeding high up in the canopy of a relatively open primary forest (750 m). The owners of the private reserve reported the species as not uncommon; it seems that a healthy population exists within the reserve.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus*

Hilty & Brown (1986) noted that the species probably occurs in the paramó zone of S Dpto. Nariño, as the species is known from N Ecuador (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990). Its occurrence in Nariño is confirmed by the observations of three individuals on 28 September 1996 at Lago Cumbal (3,700 m) and of one bird hunting in extensive reed-marshes of the La Cocha Lagune (2,700 m) on 30 December 1997 and 3 January 2000 (photograph).

BRONZY INCA *Coeligena coeligena*

On 10 August 1996 a single individual was observed (photograph) at a forest border in La Planada (1,840 m). This observation represents the first record for the Pacific slope in Dpto. Nariño; previous records are restricted to the Pacific slope south to Dpto. Cauca (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Hilty & Brown 1986).

WHITE-BELLIED WOODSTAR *Acestrura mulsant*

The species is uncommon and local in the Central and East Andes south to Dpto. Nariño (Hilty & Brown 1986), and mainly reported on the W slope in Ecuador (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990). Distribution on the Pacific slope in Dpto. Nariño was confirmed by observations of a female on 6 November 1997 and a pair on 16 February 1998 at humid montane forest borders in the Miraflores area (2,600-2,800 m). Females differ from the Gorgeted Woodstar *Acestrura heliodor*, which was observed within the same area, by an all green rump and white centre of lower breast and belly; males of *A. heliodor* have a much darker green plumage and are missing the white belly of *A. mulsant*.

VIOLACEOUS TROGON *Trogon violaceus*

On 4 December 1996 two females were observed at a forest border close to the village of Pueblo Nuevo (480 m), and in July 1997 a male perched in a forest clearing in the same area (420 m). Previously the species was not recorded for the Pacific region in Colombia, but records exist for W Ecuador (Hilty & Brown 1986). The continued deforestation in SW Colombia probably permitted a northward range extension of this species.

WHITE-FACED PUFFBIRD *Hapaloptila castanea*

The species is generally rare and local, and only known from a few scattered localities in Colombia (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Hilty & Brown 1986). Records exist from the ridges in La Planada (1,900-2,100 m) (including pers. obs.). On 1 October 1997 a single individual was recorded within a forest gap on a steep slope of the upper Miraflores valley at 2,370 m; another bird was observed along a ridge at 2,670 m following a mixed-species flock on 8 May 1998.

SPOT-BREASTED WOODPECKER *Chrysoptilus punctigula*

One male was observed on 4 January 1998 constructing a nest cavity at a secondary forest border in the upper Patía Valley, representing the first record for this valley. This widespread nonforest species was previously reported in W Colombia south only to Buenaventura and in the Cauca Valley south to Cali (Hilty & Brown 1986).

CHESTNUT-NAPED ANTPITTA *Grallaria nuchalis*

The species is known in Colombia from both slopes of the Central Andes south to Dpto. Cauca, from the W slope of East Andes (*ruficeps*) (Hilty & Brown 1986), and is recorded in NW and NE Ecuador (*obsoleta*) (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Ridgely & Tudor 1994). The species was fairly common in the Lagune La Cocha area (2,700-3,100 m), for example within the private Tunguragua Nature Reserve, where the

species was regularly heard (tape-recordings) and observed in forest undergrowth with dense bamboo thickets.

RUFOUS ANTPITTA *Grallaria rufula*

The first records for the Pacific slope of the W Andes in Dpto. Nariño come from humid montane forest at Miraflores (3,200-3,400 m), where individuals were observed and heard (tape-recordings) in undergrowth of dense primary forest close to the treeline. The species is also reported from the east slope in Dpto. Nariño (pers. obs.) and W Ecuador (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Hilty & Brown 1986).

MOUNTAIN ELAENIA *Elaenia frautzii*

On most of the visits during my fieldwork the species was recorded on the NW slope of Volcan Cumbal (>2,400 m) and in the Lagune La Cocha area (2,700 m), including a bird mist-netted (photograph). The species is uncommon in cultivated areas with hedges and at forest edges around the village Miraflores. In comparison to the Sierran Elaenia *Elaenia pallatangae* the birds showed neither a crown-patch nor a crest and the underparts were uniform pale yellowish olive with a slightly paler throat. Previously, the species was known from all three Andean ranges north of Dpto. Nariño (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Hilty & Brown 1986, Ridgely & Tudor 1994).

CATTLE TYRANT *Machetornis rixosus*

The first record for Dpto. Nariño comes from the upper Patía valley, where two birds were seen foraging in gardens and meadows close to the village of Remolino on 5 January 1997. The species has been recorded once in the Pacific region at Buenaventura (3 March 1979) and no records exist for the Andean valleys in Colombia (Hilty & Brown 1986, Ridgely & Tudor 1994). Deforestation has probably permitted this species to enter the Patía Valley from northern Colombia in recent years.

SIRYSTES *Sirystes sibilator*

This species had been recorded for the Pacific region in the northern Chocó (south to the Baudó mountains) and in W Ecuador (October 1997 pers. obs.). On 4 December 1996 one individual was seen at a forest border close to Pueblo Nuevo at 480 m, representing the first record for Dpto. Nariño. The bird showed two broad white wingbars, broad white edgings and a black tail tipped white, characteristic for the trans Andean *albogriseus*, which may be a different species (Hilty & Brown 1986, Ridgely & Tudor 1994, Stotz *et al.* 1996).

PALE-EDGED FLYCATCHER *Myiarchus cephalotes*

The species is known from all three Andean ranges in Colombia, but with only few records from the Pacific slope (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Hilty & Brown 1986). One individual was observed on 17 February 1997 at a humid montane forest border at 2,560 m, which represents the first record for the Pacific slope in Dpto. Nariño.

PLAIN-TAILED WREN *Thryothorus euophrys*

In Colombia the species is only known from the slopes of Volcan Chiles close to the border of Ecuador in S Dpto. Nariño (Fjeldsa & Krabbe 1990, Salaman 1994). The

fieldwork on the slopes of the neighbouring Volcan Cumbal produced records (observations and tape-recordings) in tangled forest borders at 2,300-2,650 m.

TROPICAL MOCKINGBIRD *Mimus gilvus*

According to Ridgely & Tudor (1994) this species is distributed in non-forested regions of western Colombia south to the upper Patía valley in S Dpto. Cauca. The species was first noted in cultivated areas below La Planada at 1,550 m on 26 August 1996; later it was regularly recorded up to 2,000 m. It is benefiting from the destruction of the forest ecosystems in this area.

CHOCÓ VIREO *Vireo masteri*

This threatened endemic species is known from two sites on the Pacific slope of the W Andes at 1,200-1,600 m (Salaman & Stiles 1996, Stattersfield *et al.* 1998). The species is well known from the Rio Ñambi Nature Reserve. On 26 January 1998 two individuals were observed in lower parts of the Rio Ñambi Valley within the El Pangan Nature Reserve at 850 m. The observation represents an altitudinal extension of 350 m.

WHITE-SHOULDERED TANAGER *Tachyphonus luctuosus*

Several records, including one pair at a forest border high up in the canopy at Pueblo Nuevo represent the first records for the Pacific region in Dpto. Nariño. The record is not surprising as the species is known from humid forested regions in the N Chocó south to Dpto. Valle and from W Ecuador (Hilty & Brown 1986, Isler & Isler 1999, Ridgely & Tudor 1989).

RUFIOUS-CHESTED TANAGER *Thlypopsis ornata*

The species is known from the W slope of the Central Andes in Dpto. Cauca (Hilty & Brown 1986, Isler & Isler 1999) and the slopes of Volcan Chiles, Nariño (Salaman 1994). The new locations for this species in Colombia are Volcan Cumbal, where several individuals or pairs were observed in humid montane shrubbery and edge of cloud forest at altitudes between 2,600-3,200 m, and the E slope of Volcan Galeras (observation of three individuals at 2,800 m in December 1999).

LARGE-BILLED SEED-FINCH *Oryzoborus crassirostris*

A male was observed in secondary growth foraging with a flock of Seed eaters *Sporophila sp.* near the village Leiva (1,100 m) in the upper Patía valley on 4 January 1998. This is the first record for Dpto. Nariño; it is previously known from the Cauca Valley south to Medellin and the upper Patía valley at El Bordo, Dpto. Cauca (Haffer 1986, Hilty & Brown 1986).

BLACK-AND-WHITE SEEDEATER *Sporophila luctuosa*

After a period of heavy burning of large areas in the Volcan Cumbal region, three times a single male was observed accompanying flocks of Yellow-bellied Seedeater *Sporophila uigracollis* on 21 and 24 September 1997 and on 15 November 1997 in the La Planada area (1,600-1,850 m). Large flocks of Seed eaters (Variable Seedeater

Sporophila americana and *Sporophila nigricollis*), foraged during this period on the unburned grassy slopes at the edge of humid forest in the vicinity of the reserve. The species is known locally in subtropical and lower temperate zone from all three Andean ranges in Colombia and in the Central Andes south to Dpto. Cauca (Hilty & Brown 1986), and is also recorded in N Ecuador on both slopes (Fjeldsá & Krabbe 1990).

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to Dr. J. Haffer for his review and valuable comments on the manuscript. Many thanks to all the staff at La Planada, Rio Nambi and El Pangan nature reserves for their assistance throughout the project.

References:

- Collar, N. J., Crosby, M. J., & Stattersfield, A. J. (1994) *Birds to Watch 2: The World List of Threatened Birds*. BirdLife Conservation Series No. 4. BirdLife International, Cambridge.
- Collar, N. J., Gonzaga, L. P., Krabbe, N., Madroño-Nieto, A., Naranjo, L. G., Parker III, T. A. & Wege, D. C. (1992) *Threatened birds of the Americas: The ICBP/IUCN Red Data Book*. Third edition (part 2). ICBP, Cambridge.
- Fjeldsá, J. & Krabbe, N. (1990) *Birds of the high Andes*. Zool. Mus. Univ. of Copenhagen.
- Haffer, J. (1986) On the avifauna of the upper Patia valley, Southwestern Colombia. *Caldasia* Vol. XV Nos. 71-75: 533-553.
- Hilty, S. L. and Brown, W. L. (1986) *A Guide to the Birds of Colombia*. Princeton Univ. Press, New Jersey.
- Isler, M.L. & P.R. Isler (1999) *The Tanagers*. – Smithsonian Inst. Press, Washington D.C.
- Ridgely, R. S. & Tudor, G. (1989) *The birds of South America: Vol. 1, the Oscine Passerines*. Oxford Univ. Press.
- Ridgely, R. S. & Tudor, G. (1994) *The birds of South America: Vol. 2, the Suboscine Passerines*. Oxford Univ. Press.
- Salaman, P. (1994): *Surveys and conservation of biodiversity in the Choco South-west Colombia*. Final report of three conservation expeditions to western Nariño. BirdLife International Study Report No. 61, Cambridge.
- Salaman, P. & F.G. Stiles (1996): A distinctive new species of vireo (*Passeriformes: Vireonidae*) from the Western Andes of Colombia. *Ibis* 138: 610-619.
- Stattersfield, A. J., Crosby, M. J., Long, A. J. & Wege, D. C. (1997) *Endemic Bird Areas of the world: Priorities for biodiversity conservation*. BirdLife Conservation Series No. 7. BirdLife International, Cambridge.
- Stotz, D. F., Fitzpatrick, J. W., Parker III, T. A., & Moskovits, D. K. (1996) *Neotropical Birds: Ecology and conservation*. Univ. of Chicago Press.
- Strewe, R. (1999) *Arealstrukturen und -dynamiken von Tangaren (Thraupinae) im südwestlichen Kolumbien*. Dissertation Universität des Saarlandes, Saarbrücken.
- Thiollay J.-M. (1991) Altitudinal distribution and conservation of raptors in Southwestern Colombia. *The Journal of Raptor Research* 25: 1-8.

Address: Bebbelsdorf 27, D-58454 Witten, Germany.